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Editorial.

ARE you a weight or a wing to your pastor? One or the other you must be.

How about your New Year's resolutions? Have they all been kept so far? Or are they like some "secrets," too good to keep.

THE most convincing argument in favor of Christianity, is the *life* those live who profess Christianity. What argument has your life furnished the world.

THE Apostle Paul declares that Christians are "living epistles, known and read of all men." What poor, worthless reading matter, some professed Christians are.

THE man who says he loves the Lord Jesus, and does not the things Jesus tells him, is not a truthful man. "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I tell you?"

BROTHER, sister, you may as well learn now as at any other time, that long, loud prayers, spasmodic shoutings, and loud *amens*, are not an evidence of genuine conversion, and count for nothing with the Lord, unless accompanied by service, active service in the work of the Lord. Doing the WILL OF GOD is the only evidence of a heart renewed by the Holy Spirit of God. "He that hath not the Spirit is none of his."

THE progress of Christianity is seen in more than one way. The public Christians which are the out growth of charities teaching, the work of the young people, gifts and bequests for colleges and schools, the practical work of churches, missionary enterprises—all these far exceed those of any other period of the Christian era. There is also a return to a deeper spiritual life, and the love which is from above pervades the followers of the holy Jesus. We have full confidence in the ultimate triumph of Christianity.

YE are my friends, if ye *do* whatsoever I command you." So said Jesus. The condition of friendship, is *obedience* to his word. Christ has shown his friendship to the world by *dying* for it. How shall we show our friendship to him? By doing his will.

If you would teach others the way of life, be sure that you are yourself walking in that way. You cannot tell others the truth, unless you *know* the truth, and to proclaim the truth as it is in Jesus with convincing power, one must not only *know* the truth, but he must *feel* it—tell it to others, not from your lips only, but from the heart.

Do you know where the world gets its idea of Christianity? The unbelieving do not read books on evidences and theology. They get their idea of Christ's religion from the life of those who profess to be followers of Jesus. If, therefore as a Christian, you do not live right, then you are teaching the world error. How careful we should be.

THE work in the church is moving grandly forward. Prospects are bright. With the Gospel as our creed, we *must* succeed. The foundation of the Brethren church is Jesus Christ, and the promise is that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. The foundation is safe. It remains for us who are members to build as "becometh a wise master builder.

THE ONLY CURE.

That there are social evils existing, no one will deny. The evils which afflict society are only too manifest. Every where may be seen the demoralizing effects of secret sin, vice, selfishness and creed. Intemperance, lust, impurity, covetousness, incontinence, are gnawing away at the very heart of human society and threatening its destruction. That these sins exist, no one doubts. But how shall society rid itself of them? is a question on which not all are agreed. What is the cure for the ills of society?

Within the last ten years more than usual attention has been given to what is known as the "Social Problem" of the day. How shall the problem be solved? Is there a solution for it? If there is not, the world should know it, and if there is, the world should know it also. Can the ills and ails of human society be cured? "Is there no balm in

Gilead?" Here and there one rises up and announces that he has found the one and only solution to the society question. Another comes forth and denounces the remedy as utterly worthless, and proposes something entirely different. Thus the world struggles, and men rack their brains in vain, for that which is within easy reach of every one of us.

The time was when it seemed as though the church, the Word of God and Christianity would have no part in the settlement of the great social problems of the day. Men declared the church, a cold, lifeless, institution, with forms and ceremonies, unable to meet the needs of humanity. They said Christianity is a failure. It is gratifying, however, to note that Christianity refused to be driven from the field of conflict, and that now, these very men, having exhausted their resources, turn their attention to the one great fountain whence must flow the healing stream for every ailment of human society. The remedy is found in Jesus Christ and his blessed Gospel. The Word of God is the healing balm. The Gospel of Jesus Christ offers the solution which men have been striving in vain to find. If capital and labor, and organized society everywhere would but adopt the Sermon on the Mount as the basis of government, or the Golden Rule as their rule of life and conduct, the social question would be forever settled. Here is the whole secret. "Ye will not come to me that ye may have life," said Jesus. And to-day the same Christ might say to the world at large, "Society will not come to me that it may have life and peace and joy."

At Nazareth, in his early ministry, Jesus stood up and declared that the world was blind, captive, in sin and misery, sick at heart and altogether helpless, and then boldly announced and affirmed, that *in him* was to be found the remedy for all the ills and aches of human life. It is to him then that we must go, and of him we must ask, if our land is to be filled with love, joy, peace and righteousness. He who begins the work of reformation in any community, must do so by proclaiming the life giving words of Jesus Christ. On this subject, J. R. Miller, very truthfully says:

"The best cure for the evils in society is the diffusion of the word of God. Wherever it goes it cleanses. It elevates the moral tone. It shows sin in its true colors—hideous and loathsome. It quickens the conscience. It creates visions of